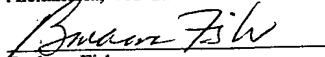


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DT11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JUN 2004


Barbara Fisher
Date: 28 June 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of:)
)
ALFORD, Robert, Andrew, et al.)
)
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP02/14865)
)
Int. Filing Date: 31 December 2002)
)
METHOD FOR INTERCONNECTING TUBULARS))
BY FORGE WELDING)

28 June 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box PCT: (DO/EO/US)
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as
follows: